

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2002 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM
PROJECT NUMBER: 3

- I. Project Title: Fish and Wildlife Service Program Management
- II. Principal Investigator: Bob Muth, Program Director, P.O. Box 25486, DFC, Denver, CO 80225. Phone: 303/969-7322, ext. 223. FAX: 303/969-7327. E-Mail: robert_muth@fws.gov.
- III. Project Summary: The ongoing work of the Recovery Program Director's office is to ensure timely and effective planning, implementation, coordination, and administrative support of the Recovery Program by: 1) coordinating and implementing recovery activities; 2) conducting Program planning and evaluation; 3) managing the Recovery Program annual budget; 4) providing staff assistance to Program committees; and 5) directing and coordinating Service Recovery Program activities. These tasks were carried out by Recovery Program staff including the director, assistant director, coordinators for the major recovery elements, and clerical staff.
- IV. Study Schedule: 1989-ongoing.
- V. Relationship to RIPRAP:
- General Recovery Program Support Action Plan:
- VII.A.3 Update, refine, and prioritize recovery actions (RIPRAP) annually.
 - VII.A.5 Monitor and assess Recovery Program accomplishments annually.
 - VII.A.6 Develop annual work plan to address priority needs.
 - VII.B Actively participate in Recovery Program committees and secure funding for annual work plan and larger projects.
 - VII.C Manage, direct, and coordinate Recovery Program activities.
- VI. Accomplishment of FY 2002 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

A. Program Director & Staff

1. Directed and coordinated implementation of recovery efforts as described in the RIPRAP and the Annual Work Plan in the areas of: a) instream flow protection b) habitat restoration and nonnative fish management; c) propagation/genetics and research, monitoring, and data management; and d) information, education, and public involvement. Program coordinators are: Gerry Roehm for instream flow protection; Pat Nelson for habitat restoration and nonnative fish control; Dave Soker for land acquisition (now retired); Tom Czapla for propagation/genetics and research, monitoring, and data management; and Debbie Felker for information, education, and public involvement.

Significant accomplishments/activities included:

- Negotiated details to amend the Program's Cooperative Agreement to extend the Program through 2013.
- Completed draft recovery goals; developed and implemented extensive outreach plan.
- Completed a review draft of the Yampa River Management Plan.
- Worked with landowners along the Green, Gunnison, and Colorado rivers to negotiate agreements easement and/or acquisition of floodplain properties.
- Coordinated meetings with interested parties to resolve technical issues related to the Gunnison River flow recommendations.
- Coordinated publicity and public involvement for high-profile Recovery Program issues.
- Gave numerous presentations on the Recovery Program and its activities.

2. Carried out Program planning and evaluation:

- a. Reviewed and updated the RIPRAP and document changes (including changes to the RIPRAP budget); submitted recommended RIPRAP revisions to the technical, Management, and Implementation committees for review. Final printed revised RIPRAP still pending.
- b. Developed revised FY 2003 recommended Work Plan. Solicited and developed proposals and drafted FY 2002-3 Work Plan in coordination with the Management and technical committees.
- c. Requested, revised as needed, and distributed FY 2001 project accomplishment reports.
- d. Continued to implement peer review as needed.

3. Monitored the FY 2002 Recovery Program annual budget and modified as necessary.

- a. Developed annual funding source/target tables (Program, Reclamation, and Service).
- b. Developed and administered numerous cooperative agreements and contracts to implement activities such as: peer review, recovery goal development, stream gages, etc.
- c. Monitored payment and expenditure of Section 7 funds in the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation account.

- d. Calculated FY 2003 annual agency contributions and depletion charge increases based on the 1999 CPI (2.8%).
 - e. Assisted with obtaining annual funding by organizing (and accompanying) Recovery Program trip to Washington, D.C. to brief key people in the Department of the Interior, the Office of Management and Budget, national environmental groups, Congressional delegations, and authorizing and appropriation committees. Prepared briefing book.
4. Provided staff assistance to the Implementation and Management committees:
- a. Prepared and distributed agendas and related documents in coordination with committee chairs. Arranged meetings and conference calls.
 - b. Prepared and promptly distributed concise, accurate meeting summaries.
 - c. Maintained Recovery Program administrative record.
 - d. Provided staff assistance to committees as necessary.
 - e. Recovery Program committee and related activities publicized on the Program listserver and posted on Program participant web pages.
 - f. Attended Implementation, Management, and technical committee meetings. Took notes at Biology Committee meetings and promptly provided drafts meeting summaries to the Committee chair.
 - g. Maintained Recovery Program technical report library and database. Maintained library listing in Endnote bibliographic software and on the Program participant web pages.
 - h. Continued to maintain the electronic mailing list for Program participants.
 - i. Maintained and improved web pages to serve information to Program participants.
5. Directed and coordinated Service activities related to the Recovery Program.
- a. Administered funding for Service Recovery Program activities.
 - b. Conducted monthly Service conference call.
 - c. Coordinated with and provided staff support to Service management on Recovery Program activities and issues.

B. Fish and Wildlife Service

1. Provided technical expertise and recommendations to the Biology Committee as requested.
2. Participated in Biology Committee meetings.

VII. Recommendations: None

VIII. Project Status: Ongoing and on track.

IX. FY 2002 Budget Status

- A. Funds Provided: \$804,500 (included FY 2001 funds carried over)
- B. Funds Expended: We are still determining the amount of any FY 2002 carry-over.
- C. Difference: To be determined.
- D. Percent of FY 2002 work completed and projected costs to complete: All work completed.
- E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: None this year.

X. Status of Data Submission: Not applicable.

XI. Signed: Robert Muth, February 26, 2003

APPENDIX: See also:

- FY 2001 annual progress reports
- FY 2002-3 Program Guidance.
- FY 2001 and 2002-3 Recovery Program Work Plans
- Implementation and Management committee meeting summaries

RECOVERY GOAL DEVELOPMENT: With the approval of the Management Committee, a contract to provide assistance to develop recovery goals was begun with Rich Valdez of SWCA Environmental Associates in 1999. This contract was completed in FY 2001 for a total cost of \$210,750 in Section 7 funds. It was reported in our FY 2001 annual report because a separate SOW wasn't developed. A second contract to assist in finalizing the recovery goals, assist in responding to a FOIA request and NOI related to the goals, assist with the population monitoring workshop, and develop a floodplain model for razorback sucker was begun in FY 02, for a cost of \$58,025 through December 2002.

I:\COLORIV\2002 Annual Reports\PROGRAM MANAGEMENT\3.wpd